

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 CCO-00 FBOE-00 /016 W

----- 110626

R 242330Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBAYRM CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8808

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

UNCLAS CANBERRA 6115

DEPT FOR OC, EA/EX AND FBO; MANILA FOR RCO

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ACOM, AS

SUBJ: PABX REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

REF : STATE 17626

1. WE ARE EXPERIENCING CONTINUING PROBLEMS WITH PRESENT TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT, PROBLEMS LONG KNOWN TO THE DEPARTMENT AND HIGHLIGHTED BY THE INSPECTORS IN LAST INSPECTION REPORT. NON-AVAILABILITY SPARE PARTS REQUIRES ALMOST CONSTANT IMPROVISING OF THIS

ARSIUDHAPYEQQ# LEFT OPERABLE. TECHNICIANS STRONGLY BELIEVE WE MAY REACH POINT SOON WHEN IMPROVISATION WILL NOT SUFFICE TO KEEP EQUIPMENT GOING.

2. REFTTEL DOES NOT EVEN ASSURE THAT FUNDING WILL BE AVAILABLE IN FY 78. WE, HOWEVER, STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT FUNDS MUST BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR A NEW PABX IN FY 77.

3. WE HAVE EXPLORED WITH AUSTRALIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WHETHER WE COULD INSTALL A U.S. MANUFACTURED EPABX AND RECEIVED NEGATIVE REPLY. ONLY EQUIPMENT AUTHORIZED CURRENTLY IS EQUIPMENT OF AUSTRALIAN MANUFACTURE AND TENDERS ARE REQUIRED. CLEARLY WE COULD TAKE WHOLE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT WE COULD INSTALL AMERICAN

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EQUIPMENT TO DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRY TO

FORCE THAT ISSUE BUT WE WOULD HAVE NO ASSURANCE THAT THE  
DFA COULD REVERSE TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION POLICY.

4. OUR CONCERN RIGHT NOW IS THAT CURRENT SYSTEM MAY  
WELL COLLAPSE ON US. WE HAVE CANVASSED COSTS OF AUS-  
TRALIAN MADE SYSTEM WHICH WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY  
A\$50,000 PLUS 5,000 MAINTENANCE COSTS PER YEAR. WE DO  
NOT HAVE THE CURRENT COSTS OF A U.S. SYSTEM FOR COM-  
PARISON. IN ANY CASE, WE BELIEVE MAJOR EFFORT MUST BE  
MADE BY OC, EA/EX AND FBO TO GET FUNDS IN FY 77 BECAUSE

PRESENT SYSTEM TOTALLY INADEQUATE AND LIKELY TO BECOME  
ALMOST COMPLETELY INOPERABLE.

5. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE EA/EX BRINGING THISTEL TO

ATTENTION DONALD E. RAU.  
HARGROVE

NOTE BY OC/T: # AS RECEIVED.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ACOM  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 AUG 1976  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
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**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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